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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 24, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable GLENN THOMPSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2014, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

LIEUTENANT DARRYN ANDREWS: AMERICAN WARRIOR AND TEXAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, growing up, Darryn Andrews was known as one of the most selfless and patriotic kids in the neighborhood. Not surprisingly, he joined the United States Army to serve America. 2nd Lieutenant Darryn Andrews was the platoon leader for the 3rd Blackfoot Company, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry (Airborne) in Afghanistan.

On September 4, 2009, 2nd Lieutenant Andrews' platoon was on a mission and

was traveling along a walled road in Afghanistan when an IED exploded and disabled the lead vehicle in the convoy. Lieutenant Andrews quickly jumped out of his vehicle and was assessing the damage of the vehicle that had hit the IED, and he saw through the glint in his eye an RPG coming straight for him and his fellow troops. So, in an instant, he jumped on top of his fellow soldiers and took the brunt of the RPG. He sacrificed himself so that his buddies would live. Recently, it was learned that Lieutenant Andrews and his patrol were searching for a missing soldier by the name of Bowe Bergdahl. Second Lieutenant Andrews was awarded the Silver Star in honor of his service and the sacrifice he made for his fellow soldiers.

At his death, Darryn left behind his 2-year-old son, his pregnant wife, his twin brother, and both of his parents, Andy and Sondra. Both of his parents, Andy and Sondra, were here last week and testified before my Terrorism Subcommittee. Sondra still wears Darryn's dog tags. The family lives in Cameron, Texas.

Mr. Speaker, General George Patton said it best about warriors such as Lieutenant Darryn Andrews who die in battle. He said:

While we continue to mourn the loss of such soldiers, we should thank God that such men ever lived.

And that's just the way it is.

FOOD RESEARCH AND ACTION CENTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, ending hunger shouldn't be controversial. It shouldn't be something that we ignore but, rather, a goal that we embrace. Ending hunger is an achievable goal; it is something that we can do if we muster the political will to do so.

Government—Federal, State, and local—will play a large role in ending hunger. The problem is too big and too much a part of our basic values for government institutions not to get involved.

We already created the programs that will help us end hunger: SNAP, WIC, and school meals, just to name a few. Many of these programs are underfunded and need to be responsibly updated for the 21st century. The truth is that these programs do real good in our cities, towns, and communities, and they are working effectively and efficiently.

But government can't do it alone, and that is why I am proud to stand with my friends in the antihunger community in support of their many efforts to end hunger. One such group doing fantastic work to end hunger now is the Food Research and Action Center, known as FRAC.

FRAC is a tremendous organization, but it is not the typical group that first comes to mind when people think about antihunger organizations. FRAC is not a food bank or a food pantry. Run by my good friend Jim Weill, FRAC works with hundreds of national, State, and local nonprofit organizations, public agencies, corporations, and labor organizations to address hunger, food insecurity, and their root cause—poverty.

FRAC conducts research to document the extent of hunger in America, its impact, and effective solutions. It seeks improved Federal, State, and local public policies that will reduce hunger and undernutrition, monitors the implementation of laws, and serves as a watchdog of programs.

FRAC provides coordination, training, technical assistance, and support on nutrition and antipoverty issues to a nationwide network of advocates, service providers, food banks, program administrators and participants, and policymakers. Lastly, FRAC conducts

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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public information campaigns to help promote changes in attitudes and policies.

FRAC helps frame the debate in Congress and State legislatures, educating elected officials and their staff, and they help implement antihunger programs at the local levels. FRAC does everything but literally hand food to hungry Americans. The work they do has resulted in stronger programs and more eligible people receiving food assistance.

Mr. Speaker, the Federal antihunger safety net is excellent, but it is not perfect. It is vast, but it is not comprehensive. FRAC works with policymakers and government officials to make these programs better, to ensure that no hungry person is left without food.

FRAC was a leader in our fight to save the Heat and Eat program in the recently enacted farm bill. It has stood strong in the fight to ensure that everyone gets breakfast at school and food during the summer, and FRAC has also fought back on antinutrition riders that House Republicans have attached to the Agriculture Appropriations bill.

FRAC has stood with me from day one of my End Hunger Now campaign. Like me, they believe that hunger is a political condition, that it is solvable. FRAC has been invaluable in this fight. They have organized countless numbers of food stamp challenges, including the two food stamp challenges that I participated in; and they work with important local antihunger groups like Project Bread and the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, along with the Northeast Regional Anti-Hunger Network.

FRAC is one of the leaders in the fight to end hunger now. Every single person who works at FRAC is committed to a shared vision of a hunger-free America. Whether it is working to expand the number of kids getting food during the summer or fighting against cuts to SNAP, the people who work for FRAC are doing everything they can to end hunger.

I want to commend Jim Weill and his team at FRAC for everything they do. Not only are they true professionals, they care about their work. I want to thank everyone at FRAC for fighting to end hunger now.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, as they continue their important work, we in Congress will be inspired to do more. It is shameful that this Congress has been so clueless when it comes to ending hunger. We and the White House need to develop a comprehensive plan with benchmarks and timetables to end hunger now and then enact it. Indifference and making believe that the problem will go away on its own is not a policy; it is an excuse to do nothing. Let's instead follow the example of FRAC and End Hunger Now.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a follower of Jesus and a lifelong member of the Presbyterian Church USA who is deeply grieved by what transpired at last week's gathering of PCUSA's General Assembly. I feel increasingly alienated from this rich faith tradition, which includes John Witherspoon, the only active clergyman to sign the Declaration of Independence, and submit for the RECORD a statement of protest by the Presbyterian Lay Committee Board of Directors, which expresses a similar sentiment.

[June 19, 2014]

PRESBYTERIAN LAY COMMITTEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPUDIATES ACTION OF PCUSA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(By Carmen Fowler LaBerge)

DETROIT, MI.—A statement of protest by the Presbyterian Lay Committee repudiating the action of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA to redefine marriage. The 221st General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) has approved both an Authoritative Interpretation of the Constitution and an amendment to redefine marriage. In the name of 1.8 million Presbyterians nationwide, the General Assembly has committed an express repudiation of the Bible, the mutually agreed upon Confessions of the PCUSA, thousands of years of faithfulness to God's clear commands and the denominational ordination vows of each concurring commissioner. This is an abomination. The Presbyterian Lay Committee mourns these actions and calls on all Presbyterians to resist and protest them. You should tell your pastor and the members of your session that you disapprove of these actions. You should refuse to fund the General Assembly, your synod, your presbytery and even your local church if those bodies have not explicitly and publicly repudiated these unbiblical actions. God will not be mocked and those who substitute their own felt desires for God's unchangeable Truth will not be found guiltless before a holy God. The Presbyterian Lay Committee will continue to call for repentance and reform: repentance of those who have clearly erred at this General Assembly and reform of the PCUSA according to the Word of God. Presbyterian Lay Committee Board of Directors, June 19, 2014.

Mr. WOLF. I will begin with marriage. After several years of internal discussion and debate, the assembly voted overwhelmingly to take a position which runs counter to the counsel of Scripture, which defines marriage as the divinely inspired joining of one man and one woman.

It has long been clear that our culture is in the throes of a seismic shift on this issue. While the current marriage debate is centered around the notion of same-sex unions, in reality there has been a decades-long assault on marriage, such that what was once almost universally recognized as a God-ordained and created institution, the fundamental building block of any society and the nexus of procreation and childrearing, has now been called

into question both in the larger culture and increasingly in the legal framework which governs this land. But perhaps the most striking and troubling is that increasingly this is happening within the church itself, which has historically served as a bulwark against the cultural whims of the day.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says:

Haven't you read . . . that at the beginning the Creator "made them male and female," and said, "For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and two will become one flesh"? So they are no longer but two, but one. Therefore, what God has joined together let man not separate."

This passage and others like it remind me of Reverend Billy Graham's comments and the lead-up to the 2012 North Carolina ballot initiative regarding marriage, when he remarked:

The Bible is clear—God's definition of marriage is between a man and a woman.

In addition to marriage, I was also troubled by the PCUSA's action on Israel. I submit for the RECORD a Wall Street Journal piece which ran yesterday regarding the vote to divest the denomination stock from three American companies that do business with Israel in the West Bank citing their "involvement in the occupation and the violation of human rights in the region."

[From the Wall Street Journal, June 22, 2014]

PRESBYTERIANS JOIN THE ANTI-ISRAEL CHAIR DIVESTING FROM COMPANIES LIKE MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS TO SHOW SOLIDARITY WITH THE PALESTINIANS

(By Jonathan Marks)

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is bleeding members. Between 2000 and 2013, almost 765,000 members left the organization, a loss of nearly 30%. Last week the church's leadership met in Detroit for crisis talks.

No, not about the emptying-pews crisis. The Israel-Palestinian crisis.

On Friday, in a close vote (310-303), the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)—the largest of several Presbyterian denominations in America—resolved to divest the organization's stock in Caterpillar, Hewlett-Packard and Motorola Solutions. The church's Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment said the companies have continued to "profit from their involvement in the occupation and the violation of human rights in the region," and have even "deepened their involvement in roadblocks to a just peace." Israel's counterterrorism and defense measures have included razing Palestinian houses (with Caterpillar equipment), operating Gaza and West Bank checkpoints (with Hewlett-Packard technology), and utilizing military communications and surveillance (with Motorola Solutions technology).

The church signaled its antipathy for Israel earlier this year by hawking a study guide called "Zionism Unsettled" in its online church store. In the 76-page pamphlet, Zionism—the movement to establish a Jewish homeland and nation-state in the historic land of Israel—is characterized as a "a struggle for colonial and racist supremacist privilege."

In a postscript to "Zionism Unsettled," Naim Ateek, a Palestinian priest and member of the Anglican Church, explains the meaning of the charges in the pamphlet. "It is the equivalent of declaring Zionism heretical, a doctrine that fosters both political